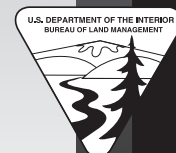


# Bureau of Land Management



## 2005 Montana/Dakotas A Report to the Public

Montana State Office



# Bureau of Land Management

## MONTANA/DAKOTAS BLM ACREAGE

### Surface Acres

Montana	7,950,760
North Dakota	58,837
South Dakota	274,437
TOTAL	8,284,034

### Subsurface Acres

Montana	40,354,004
North Dakota	5,614,146
South Dakota	3,776,199
TOTAL	49,744,349

for breakdown by county, and other links contained in this report, go to [www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/index.html](http://www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/index.html)

## WILDLIFE

### Fish and Wildlife Habitat

- 600 species of fish and wildlife
- 3,500 acres of lakes and reservoirs
- 2,500 miles of streams
- 200,000 acres of waterfowl habitat having international importance

### Threatened and Endangered Species

- 4 threatened and endangered mammals
- 4 threatened and endangered birds
- 3 threatened and endangered fish
- 2 threatened and endangered plants
- 1 threatened and endangered invertebrate

### Special Status Species

- Mammals – List updated in 2004
- Birds – List updated in 2004
- Fish – List updated in 2004
- Plants – List updated in 2005

### Wild Horses

- Pryor Mountain National Wild Horse Range covers 39,651 acres
- 139 adult horses and 25 foals are on the range; 95 adult horses +/- 10 percent is the appropriate management level (currently under revision)
- 4 horses/burros reassigned to new adopters
- 73 compliance checks completed
- 59 animals titled

## LANDSCAPE

### Wilderness

- 36 Wilderness Study Areas totaling 447,327 acres

- 173,499 acres in 15 areas recommended for wilderness designation (about .02% of the total BLM-managed land base in Montana/Dakotas)
- 273,828 acres in 30 study areas not recommended for wilderness designation
- 4 Section 202 Wilderness Study Areas totaling 5,236 acres awaiting study. Tobacco Root Tack-On will be studied in the Dillon Resource Management Plan and Elk Horn will be studied in the Butte Resource Management Plan.
- One 6,000-acre designated wilderness area, the Bear Trap Canyon Unit of the Lee Metcalf Wilderness (Montana's first and only designated BLM wilderness area)

for a complete list of study areas, go to [www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/wsa.pdf](http://www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/wsa.pdf)

### Rangeland Management

- 2,628 cattle/buffalo operators; 898,598 animal unit months (AUMs) authorized
- 112 horse/burro operators; 4,048 AUMs authorized
- 130 sheep/goat operators; 24,614 AUMs authorized

### Forestry

- 400,000 acres of commercial forest land
- 138,000 acres of non-commercial forest land
- 2,631,425 board feet of timber sold for \$375,091

### Forest Development

- 0 acres of seeding
- 0 acres planted
- 886 acres of site preparation
- 75 acres of protective measures applied
- 784 acres of pre-commercial thinning
- 1,370 acres of commercial thinning
- 485 acres of stand conversions

### Noxious Weed Management

#### FY2005:

- 169,547 acres of noxious weeds treated with integrated weed control methods including chemical, physical, mechanical, and biological weed control agents, and domestic animals (sheep or goats)
- 173,726 acres inventoried and mapped for noxious weeds
- 95,708 acres monitored for Integrated Weed Management evaluation
- Over 10 million biological control agents collected and distributed

#### To date:

- Biological weed control agents established on an excess of 175,000 acres
- 69 weed management areas
- Interagency agreements in place with Agricultural Research Service and Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service for biological control
- Cooperative agreements in place with 4 Montana State University researchers for biological control

# Report to the Public

- Cooperative agreements in place with more than 75 percent of county weed districts
- Provide funding for Montana Education and Awareness Committee and Center for Invasive Plant Management
- Work closely with Montana Department of Agriculture, Montana Weed Control Association, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Indian Affairs, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the US Forest Service

## Cultural and Paleontological Resources

- 1.3 million acres inventoried to date
- 10,224 cultural properties recorded to date

## MINERALS

### Solid Minerals

#### Montana

- 16 producing Federal and Indian coal leases on 42,859 acres
- 32,623,773 tons of coal produced, generating \$40,650,730 in royalties

#### North Dakota

- 6 producing Federal and Indian coal leases on 3,054 acres
- 2,051,214 tons of coal produced, generating \$515,918 in royalties

for breakdown, go to [www.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/coal.pdf](http://www.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/coal.pdf)

### Locatable Minerals

- 838 new claims recorded
- 569 claims closed
- 9,022 claim maintenance fees processed
- \$1,015,245 in fees received for mining claim recordation, annual maintenance fees and annual assessment fees.
- 1,719 claims covered by 418 small miner waivers
- 11,778 unpatented mining claims
- 8 claims relinquished
- 0 claims patented
- 209,990 active and closed unpatented mining claims on record

for detailed statistics, go to [www.blm.gov/lr2000](http://www.blm.gov/lr2000)

### Fluid Minerals

#### Federal Oil and Gas Leases Issued

	Competitive		Noncompetitive		Total	
	Number	Acres	Number	Acres	Number	Acres
Montana	185	136,426	114	169,746	299	306,172
North Dakota	204	134,229	23	14,999	227	149,228
South Dakota	20	27,850	8	5,684	28	33,534
TOTAL	409	298,505	145	190,429	554	488,934

#### Federal Oil and Gas Leases in Effect as of 9/30/05

	Producing		Non-producing		Total	
	Number	Acres	Number	Acres	Number	Acres
Montana	1,392	766,054	2,266	3,215,949	3,658	3,982,003
North Dakota	584	309,693	959	505,273	1,543	814,966
South Dakota	73	33,457	68	87,177	141	120,634
TOTAL	2,049	1,109,204	3,293	3,808,399	5,342	4,917,603

### Oil and Gas Lease Sales

- 5 competitive oil and gas lease sales held
- 342,002 acres in 442 parcels offered
- 263,507 acres in 367 parcels leased
- \$36,018,518 bonus bids received

for detailed lease sale statistics, go to [www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/fluids.pdf](http://www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/fluids.pdf)

## SUPPORT FUNCTIONS

### Construction/Maintenance/Engineering

- 43 administrative sites constructed/maintained
- 7 bridges and major culverts inspected/maintained
- 134 facilities surveyed and designed
- 67 hazard class reservoir inspections
- 732 miles of trails and roads maintained
- 443 range improvement projects completed
- 79 recreation sites constructed/maintained
- 35 deferred maintenance projects completed
- 30 recreation fee site deferred maintenance projects
- 8 architectural & engineering task orders issued
- 1 interpretive center constructed
- 75 recreation and administrative sites condition assessed

### Geographic Information Systems/Mapping Science

- Maintained digital data of various resources and land ownership in order to produce detailed maps.
- Provided maps and digital data to other government and private entities.
- Provided visuals and analysis for public meetings and briefings.
- Provided mapping support for various programs and projects.
- 16 1:100,000 maps and 2 river float guides edited and revised for automation.
- Provided GIS analytic, mapping and presentation support for numerous projects and programs throughout Montana/Dakotas BLM.
- Updated statewide grazing allotments.
- Maintained EZ Mapper and oil and gas mapping applications.
- Provided training on GPS, GIS software and analysis, and the EZmapper application.
- Provided completed oil and gas field maps on website.
- Established a new system infrastructure for GIS serving all data and software from central repository.

# 2005

## Cadastral Survey

- 183 miles resurveyed
- 335 miles approved
- 419 survey monuments set
- 625 survey monuments approved
- 110 plats approved

*for breakdown of accomplishments by agency, go to [www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/cadastral.pdf](http://www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/cadastral.pdf)*

## Geographic Coordinated Data Base

- 321 townships collected
- 421 townships maintained

## Volunteer Program

- 590 volunteers contributed 34,902 hours valued at \$612,530; the cost to MT/DKs BLM was \$78,183

*for breakdown by office, go to [www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/volunteers.pdf](http://www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/volunteers.pdf)*

## Fire Management

- BLM took action on 109 fires; of these, 47 were on BLM lands (7,228 acres) and 62 were on non-BLM lands (21,811 acres)
- There were 6 natural outs for 83 acres
- 91 fires were lightning-caused (24,388 acres); 18 were human-caused (4,651 acres)
- 37 fuels treatments were accomplished on 4,577 acres

## Law Enforcement and Resource Protection

- Increased the law enforcement presence in the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument by transferring a second ranger to the area
- Conducted investigations into damage of archaeological sites and removal of paleontological resources
- Continued investigations for financial cost recovery involving fire suppression and damage caused by a human-caused wildfire
- Continued investigations into fraud related to the Oil & Gas and Hard Rock Mining programs
- Conducted joint operations with state & local agencies during the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial, including a partnership with the Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association
- Increased efforts to work collectively with other agencies to secure the public lands along the northern border
- Aggressively pursued alcohol-related crimes on public lands, particularly on developed recreation sites
- Assisted in search and rescue operations and local law enforcement as requested
- Provided security on wild fires in Montana
- Provided special operation support to various other states
- Conducted a special operation at the Black Hills Motorcycle Rally in Sturgis, SD
- Provided advice and assistance to BLM offices regarding public and employee safety during increased terrorism threat levels.
- Augmented the field office LE staffs during high-visitation periods

## PLANNING & ACTIONS

### Land Use Planning and Environmental Coordination

- 9 resource management plans cover Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota
- 1 management framework plan covers Dillon Field Office area (will be replaced by the Dillon Resource Management Plan in FY06)
- 5 planning efforts in progress: Dillon, Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument, Butte, Miles City, and Malta resource management plans
- 1 supplemental to the Montana Statewide Oil and Gas Final Environmental Impact Statement and Amendment of the Powder River and Billings resource management plans

*for a detailed list, go to [www.mt.blm.gov/lands/nepastatus.htm](http://www.mt.blm.gov/lands/nepastatus.htm)*

### Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

- 43 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

*for a complete list with locations and acreage, go to [www.mt.blm.gov/lands/acec.htm](http://www.mt.blm.gov/lands/acec.htm)*

### Lands Casework

- 96 rights-of-way and amendments issued; 20 renewed
- 160 acres of public land exchanged for 161.30 acres of private land
- 5 permits/leases issued; 10 renewed
- 144 patents issued for Bureau of Indian Affairs
- 8 Forest Service exchange conveyance documents (patents/deeds) issued
- 10 easement acquisitions for public access
- 5 Land and Water Conservation Fund acquisitions
- 2 donations of 128.19 acres
- 7 patents issued for the Bureau of Reclamation through special legislation
- 15 Disclaimers of Interest issued

*for more detailed statistics, go to [www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/index.html](http://www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/index.html)*

## ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

### Hazardous Materials Management

- Completed follow-up CASHE audits (internal environmental audit program) as scheduled by the CASHE audit team. (Every office gets a follow-up on a three-year cycle.)
- Completed Mosby Jet Fuel Refinery remediation.
- Completed cultural and bat surveys for physical safety hazard abatement (including adit and shaft closures) associated with abandoned mine lands. Closed 16 hazardous openings with backfill or bat gates as appropriate. About 30 more openings will be closed in 2006.



# Montana/Dakotas

- Completed and presented to ARCO a claim for damages to BLM lands in the Clark Fork River Superfund site. The claim was made following the Natural Resource Damage Assessment provisions of the Superfund Act. Negotiations with ARCO to settle the claim will continue in 2006.
- Disposed of hazardous unused and waste products from the field offices and State Office, including clandestine drug lab wastes on the public lands.
- Provided necessary hazmat training for staff statewide.

## RECREATION AND VISITOR SERVICES

In 2005, the Montana/Dakotas BLM hosted almost 4.1 million visits to public lands and collected more than \$307,466 in recreation fees. These funds are used to improve facilities and visitor services. The top five activities were:

- Hunting
- Camping
- Fishing
- Viewing Wildlife
- Hiking/Walking/Running

for a breakdown of visitor activities, go to  
[www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/visdays.pdf](http://www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/visdays.pdf)

### *Public Lands provide a diversity of “settings” for the public to enjoy:*

- 8.3 million acres of public lands of varied landscapes and opportunities
- 2,500 miles of streams
- 60,000 acres of lakes and reservoirs
- 36 Wilderness Study Areas (WSA) and 4 Section 202 WSA sites
- 32 boating access sites
- 19 Watchable Wildlife sites
- 5 Outstanding Natural Areas
- 5 Backcountry Byways (185 miles)
- 100+ miles of groomed snowmobile/cross country ski trails
- 400+ family camping units
- 15 day-use sites and 24 developed recreation sites
- 400+ undeveloped recreation sites
- 27 miles of mountain bike trail in the Blackfoot River Corridor
- Cabin rentals in Axolotl Lakes and Garnet Ghost Town areas

### *National Monuments*

- Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument (374,976 acres)
- Pompeys Pillar National Monument (51 acres)

### *National Trails*

- 310 miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail
- 13 miles of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail
- 10 miles of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail
- 30 miles of the Garnet Winter Trail
- 9 miles of the Bear Trap Canyon Recreation Trail
- 12 miles of the Centennial Trail (South Dakota)

### *National Historic Landmarks*

- Pompeys Pillar

### *Of Special Interest, our Public Lands Offer:*

- 149 miles of the Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River
- 6,000 acres of the Bear Trap Canyon Wilderness
- Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range (about 38,000 acres)
- Interpretive/educational signs, brochures and facilities

### *Recreational Achievements and Events in 2005*

- Visitor accessibility enhancements provided at the Glendive Off-Highway Vehicle Area and Howerly Island Wildlife Viewing Area
- Lewis and Clark Signature Event held in Fort Benton and Great Falls, MT.
- 7 Lewis & Clark community events held in Glasgow, Helena, Bozeman, Dillon, Hamilton, Lolo and Sula, Montana
- Interpretive kiosk installed at the Glendive Off Highway Vehicle Area
- 6 National Public Lands Day events held across Montana/Dakotas
- Billings Field Office organized volunteer projects with the Back Country Horsemen to enhance recreation areas
- Filming events occurred in the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument
- Visual resource management inventory update completed in the Havre Field Station
- Alkali Creek Mountain Bike Race held in South Dakota
- National United States Border Collie Handlers Association Sheepdog Finals held in South Dakota
- Missoula Field Office co-sponsored Blackfoot River Clean Up Day
- Feather Fest Festival – 2-day bird viewing event in Glasgow
- Dillon Field Office placed 6 interpretive signs on the Lewis and Clark Trail
- Missoula Field Office co-hosted Montana Recreation & Parks Association annual meeting
- Montana/Dakota BLM hosted 8 fishing/boating events
- Two Camps Interpretive Vista (pavilion) dedicated in July outside of Helena
- Visitor survey and trail map completed for Schnell Recreation Area in North Dakota
- North Dakota Field Office conducted a volunteer tree-planting day at Schnell Recreation Area
- Numerous interpretive activities (Leave No Trace, walks, star gazing, natural resource education tours) conducted
- Miles City Field Office completed the Knowlton Travel Plan and an inventory of the Prairie County Travel Management Area
- Billings Field Office completed a travel plan for Shepherd Ah-Nei OHV Area
- Off highway vehicle and road designations completed for the Dillon Resource Management Plan
- Road inventory completed for Butte Field Office area
- Recreation brochure for Holter Lake and 7 trail head signs completed

## ECONOMIC IMPACTS

### Personnel

- 633 total employees: 501 permanent full-time; 74 temporary; 51 career seasonal; and 7 SCEP (student career educational program)

for breakdown by field office, go to [www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/employment.pdf](http://www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/employment.pdf)

### SALARIES BY COMMUNITY

Ashland, MT	\$185,725	Havre, MT	684,911
Belle Fourche, SD	765,605	Helena, MT	62,234
Billings, MT	11,529,826	Jordan, MT	99,770
Bridger, MT	61,718	Lewistown, MT	3,922,747
Butte, MT	2,533,368	Malta, MT	820,292
Camp Crook, SD	98,144	Miles City, MT	4,435,039
Dickinson, ND	1,350,310	Missoula, MT	1,986,727
Dillon, MT	1,906,452	Pompeys Pillar, MT	52,210
Ekalaka, MT	52,210	Poplar, MT	100,257
Ennis, MT	78,551	Wolf Creek, MT	178,721
Fort Benton, MT	300,148	Zortman, MT	172,931
Fort Meade, SD	126,505		
Fort Totten, ND	66,632	Total	\$32,736,498
Glasgow, MT	664,997		
Great Falls, MT	500,368	<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$79,628,640</b>

for budget breakdown, go to [www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/budget.pdf](http://www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/budget.pdf)

### Federal Transfer Payments (including PILT payments)

- \$50,625,750 paid to state of Montana
- \$9,688,880 paid to state of North Dakota
- \$3,152,560 paid to state of South Dakota

for breakdown of payments by state, go to [www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/fedpay.pdf](http://www.mt.blm.gov/ea/annrpt/2005/fedpay.pdf)

### MONTANA PILT

<i>Local Unit Of Government</i>	<i>Total Paid In FY05</i>	<i>Local Unit Of Government</i>	<i>Total Paid In FY05</i>
Anaconda-Deer Lodge	\$284,670	McCone	170,364
Beaverhead	547,446	Meagher	119,892
Big Horn	8,199	Mineral	127,165
Blaine	391,394	Missoula	668,856
Broadwater	361,345	Musselshell	103,434
Butte-Silver Bow	303,222	Park	832,686
Carbon	591,318	Petroleum	46,880
Carter	117,657	Phillips	272,491
Cascade	283,867	Pondera	139,789
Chouteau	200,794	Powder River	117,698
Custer	465,164	Powell	409,021
Daniels	237	Prairie	84,984
Dawson	33,477	Ravalli	1,440,198
Fallon	23,061	Richland	30,789
Fergus	666,931	Roosevelt	2,886
Flathead	1,352,815	Rosebud	64,482
Gallatin	947,962	Sanders	181,004
Garfield	117,724	Sheridan	352
Glacier	567,699	Stillwater	257,768
Golden Valley	42,046	Sweet Grass	318,443
Granite	139,289	Teton	374,883
Hill	52,370	Toole	53,331
Jefferson	575,837	Treasure	148
Judith Basin	170,040	Valley	483,566
Lake	163,431	Wheatland	86,201
Lewis and Clark	1,358,615	Wibaux	5,342
Liberty	42,035	Yellowstone	109,141
Lincoln	345,896		
Madison	531,987	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$17,188,322</b>

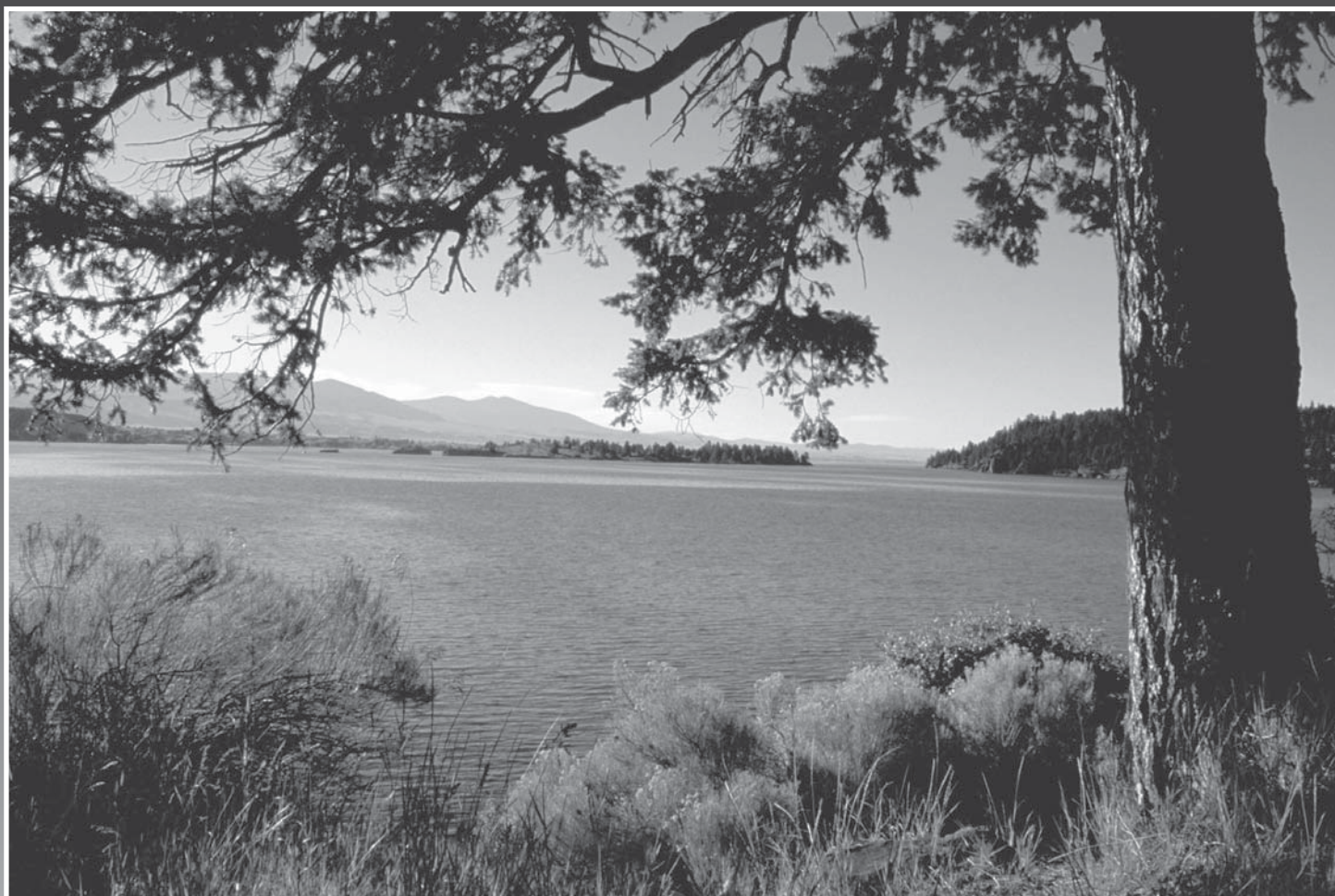
### NORTH DAKOTA PILT

<i>Local Unit Of Government</i>	<i>Total Paid In FY05</i>	<i>Local Unit Of Government</i>	<i>Total Paid In FY05</i>
Barnes	\$8,831	Mercer	10,445
Benson	\$4,735	Morton	18,795
Billings	\$61,849	Mountrail	85,565
Bottineau	\$158	Pierce	4,367
Bowman	\$7,830	Ramsey	520
Burke	\$203	Ransom	53,855
Burleigh	\$20,960	Renville	325
Cavalier	\$1,932	Richland	35,518
Dickey	\$897	Rolette	135
Divide	\$1,890	Sargent	2,420
Dunn	\$17,925	Sheridan	41,568
Eddy	\$116	Sioux	43,865
Emmons	\$44,930	Slope	26,493
Golden Valley	\$16,920	Stark	882
Grand Forks	\$1,677	Steele	194
Grant	\$12,285	Stutsman	12,911
Griggs	\$2,380	Walsh	662
Kidder	\$3,080	Ward	445
Logan	\$1,167	Wells	11,903
McHenry	\$3,034	Williams	66,001
McIntosh	\$643		
McKenzie	\$101,177	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$950,280</b>
McLean	218,792		

### SOUTH DAKOTA PILT

<i>Local Unit Of Government</i>	<i>Total Paid In FY05</i>	<i>Local Unit Of Government</i>	<i>Total Paid In FY05</i>
Beadle	\$418	Jones	27,889
Bon Homme	22,563	Lawrence	55,201
Brule	17,036	Lyman	138,208
Buffalo	17,747	McPherson	228
Butte	228,620	Meade	56,952
Campbell	31,138	Pennington	436,460
Charles Mix	36,869	Perkins	156,171
Clark	137	Potter	22,730
Corson	93,869	Roberts	780
Custer	136,217	Shannon	2,821
Day	298	Spink	1,052
Dewey	112,351	Stanley	155,010
Fall River	342,987	Sully	67,953
Gregory	38,060	Tripp	228
Haakon	6,657	Walworth	27,889
Hand	113	Yankton	3,441
Harding	118,781	Ziebach	2,495
Hughes	52,787		
Hyde	2,478	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,566,411</b>
Jackson	151,777		

# Bureau of Land Management



## Montana/Dakotas

*Caring for Our Natural Resources  
and  
Managing Lands for Public Needs*



# AN ANNUAL REPORT



**PUBLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

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**Bureau of Land Management**

**Montana State Office**

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